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## **KEY=CLASSICS - ODOM ZAYDEN**

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### **A SKULL IN CONNEMARA**

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*A&C Black Winner 1996 Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright; Winner 1996 George Devine Award for Most Promising Playwright For one week each autumn, Mick Dowd is hired to disinter the bones in certain sections of his local cemetery, to make way for new arrivals. As the time approaches for him to dig up those of his own late wife, strange rumours regarding his involvement in her sudden death seven years ago gradually begin to resurface.*

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### **A VERY VERY VERY DARK MATTER**

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*Faber & Faber In a townhouse in Copenhagen works Hans Christian Andersen, a teller of exquisite and fantastic children's tales beloved by millions. But the true source of his stories dwells in his attic upstairs, her existence a dark secret kept from the outside world. Dangerous, twisted and funny, Martin McDonagh's new play travels deep into the abysses of the imagination. A Very Very Dark Matter premiered at the Bridge Theatre, London, in October 2018.*

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### **WAITING FOR GODOT**

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### **A TRAGICOMEDY IN TWO ACTS**

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*Grove/Atlantic, Inc. From an inauspicious beginning at the tiny Left Bank Theatre de Babylone in 1953, followed by bewilderment among American and British audiences, Waiting for Godot has become of the most important and enigmatic plays of the past fifty years and a cornerstone of twentieth-century drama. As Clive Barnes wrote, "Time catches up with genius ... Waiting for Godot is one of the masterpieces of the century." The story revolves around two seemingly homeless men waiting for someone—or something—named Godot. Vladimir and Estragon wait near a tree, inhabiting a drama spun of their own consciousness. The result is a comical wordplay of poetry, dreamscapes, and nonsense, which has been interpreted as mankind's*

*inexhaustible search for meaning. Beckett's language pioneered an expressionistic minimalism that captured the existential post-World War II Europe. His play remains one of the most magical and beautiful allegories of our time.*

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## **HANGMEN**

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*Faber & Faber I'm just as good as bloody Pierrepont. In his small pub in Oldham, Harry is something of a local celebrity. But what's the second-best hangman in England to do on the day they've abolished hanging? Amongst the cub reporters and sycophantic pub regulars, dying to hear Harry's reaction to the news, a peculiar stranger lurks, with a very different motive for his visit. Don't worry. I may have my quirks but I'm not an animal. Or am I? One for the courts to discuss. Martin McDonagh's Hangmen premiered at the Royal Court Theatre, London, in September 2015.*

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## **THE LIEUTENANT OF INISHMORE**

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*Bloomsbury Publishing 'There's more than one way to skin a theatrical cat; and McDonagh's chosen weapons are laughter and gore... Pushing theatre to its limits, McDonagh is making a serious point... a work as subversive as those Synge and O'Casey plays that sparked Dublin riots in the last century' Guardian 'A brave satire... Swiftianly savage and parodic... with explicit brutal actino and lines which sing with grace and wit' Observer Who knocked Mad Padraic's cat over on a lonely road on the island of Inishmore and was it an accident? He'll want to know when he gets back from a stint of torture and chip-shop bombing in Northern Ireland: he loves his cat more than life itself. The Lieutenant of Inishmore is a brilliant satire on terrorism, a powerful corrective to the beautification of violence in contemporary culture, and a hilarious farce. It premiered at the RSC's The Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon, in May 2001. Commentary and notes by Patrick Lonergan*

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## **THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING, MISSOURI**

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*Faber & Faber After months pass without a culprit in her daughter's murder case, Mildred Hayes pays for three signs challenging the authority of William Willoughby, the town's revered chief of police. When his second-in-command, Officer Dixon, a mother's boy with a penchant for violence, gets involved, the battle between Mildred and Ebbing's law enforcement threatens to engulf the town. Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri is a darkly comedic drama from Martin McDonagh. The film won Best Motion Picture - Drama and Best Screenplay at the Golden Globes 2018, and Best Film and Best Original Screenplay at 2018 BAFTAs.*

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## **GOOD PEOPLE**

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*Dramatists Play Service Inc THE STORY: Welcome to Southie, a Boston neighborhood where a night on the town means a few rounds of bingo, where this month's paycheck covers last month's bills, and where Margie Walsh has just been let go from yet another job. Facing eviction and*

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## **MAPPING GLOBAL THEATRE HISTORIES**

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Springer *This textbook provides a global, chronological mapping of significant areas of theatre, sketched from its deepest history in the evolution of our brain's 'inner theatre' to ancient, medieval, modern, and postmodern developments. It considers prehistoric cave art and built temples, African trance dances, ancient Egyptian and Middle-Eastern ritual dramas, Greek and Roman theatres, Asian dance-dramas and puppetry, medieval European performances, global indigenous rituals, early modern to postmodern Euro-American developments, worldwide postcolonial theatres, and the hyper-theatricality of today's mass and social media. Timelines and numbered paragraphs form an overall outline with distilled details of what students can learn, encouraging further explorations online and in the library. Questions suggest how students might reflect on present parallels, making their own maps of global theatre histories, regarding geo-political theatrics in the media, our performances in everyday life, and the theatres inside our brains.*

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## **THE LONESOME WEST**

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A&C Black *"The play combines manic energy and physical violence in a way that is both hilarious and viscerally exciting" Daily Telegraph* Valene and Coleman, two brothers living alone in their father's house after his recent death, find it impossible to exist without the most massive and violent disputes over the most mundane and innocent of topics. Only father Welsh, the local young priest, is prepared to try to reconcile the two before their petty squabbings spiral into vicious and bloody carnage. *The Lonesome West* was first presented as a Druid Theatre company and Royal Court co-production in the summer of 1997.

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## **THE THEATRE OF MARTIN MCDONAGH**

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### **A WORLD OF SAVAGE STORIES**

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Peter Lang *With such plays as *The Beauty Queen* (1996), *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (1997), *The Lonesome West* (1997), *A Skull in Connemara* (1997), *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (2001), and *The Pillowman* (2003) Martin McDonagh has made a huge reputation for himself internationally, winning multiple awards for his work and enjoying universal critical acclaim. Most recently, he won an Oscar for his short film *Six Shooter* (2006). This collection of essays is a vital and significant response to the many challenges set by McDonagh for those involved in the production and reception of his work. The volume brings together critics and commentators from around the world, who assess the work from a diverse range of often provocative approaches. What is not surprising is the focus and commitment of the engagement, given the controversial and st Whether for or against, this is an essential read for all who wish to enter the complex debate about the Theatre of Martin McDonagh.*

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## **MARTYR**

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Oberon Books *Benjamin won't do swimming at school. His mum thinks he's on drugs or has body issues. But Benjamin has found God and mixed-sex swimming lessons offend him. Fundamentalism and tolerance clash in this funny, provocative play by*

leading German playwright, Marius von Mayenburg. Martyr considers how far we should go in accommodating another's faith, and when we should take a stand for our own opposing beliefs.

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## **WOMAN AND SCARECROW**

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Dramatists Play Service, Inc. *THE STORY*: A passionate woman--mother of eight children and wife to a remorseful husband--now facing death, looks back over her life and asks what could have been. Pathos and bitter humor mix in this powerful play from one of Ireland's leading dramat

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## **'WELDON RISING' & 'DISAPPEARED'**

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A&C Black "Each play I see by Phyllis Nagy confirms me in the belief that she is the finest playwright to have emerged in the 1990s" (Alistair Macaulay, *Financial Times*)  
*Weldon Rising*: Downtown New York. The temperature is soaring. In the meat-packing district, Natty Weldon's lover is casually butchered by a homicidal homophobe. The witnesses do not intervene. Natty flees in terror, two lesbians watch from their apartment window and a flamboyant transvestite prostitute covers in the street below. But life changes for them after the murder. *Disappeared*: Sarah Casey, a travel agent who has never been anywhere, meets the mysterious Elston Rupp in a bar in New York's Hell's Kitchen. They walk out together and she is never seen again. Was she murdered, has she escaped from the city of loners, or has she simply vanished? Nagy is "the laconic laureate of this spiritual wasteland" (Paul Taylor, *Independent*)

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## **OBSERVE THE SONS OF ULSTER MARCHING TOWARDS THE SOMME**

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Samuel French, Inc. *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* was revived by the Abbey Theatre, Dublin in 1994 as part of an acknowledgement of the peace process. The production was subsequently taken to the Edinburgh Festival in 1995 and opened at the Royal Shakespeare Company's Barbican Theatre, London, in March 1996.

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## **GOETHE'S FAUST**

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## **PARTS I AND II.**

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## **THE THEATRE AND FILMS OF MARTIN MCDONAGH**

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A&C Black *Martin McDonagh is one of the world's most popular dramatists. This is a highly readable and illuminating analysis of his career to date that will appeal to the legions of fans of his stage plays and the films Six Shooter and In Bruges. As a resource for students and practitioners it is unrivalled, providing an authoritative and enquiring approach to his work that moves beyond the tired discussions of national identity to offer a comprehensive critical exploration. Patrick Lonergan provides a detailed analysis of each of his plays and films, their original staging, critical reception, and the connections within and between the Leenane Trilogy, the Aran Islands plays and more recent work. It includes an interview with Garry Hynes,*

artistic director of Druid Theatre Company, and offers four critical essays on key features of McDonagh's work by leading international scholars: Joan Dean, Eamonn Jordan, Jose Laners and Karen O'Brien. A series of further resources including a chronology, glossary, notes on McDonagh's use of language and a list of further reading makes this the perfect companion to one of the most exciting dramatists writing today.

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## **THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE**

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A&C Black *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* tells the darkly comic tale of Maureen Folan, a plain and lonely woman in her early forties, and Mag her manipulative ageing mother whose interference in Maureen's first and potentially last loving relationship sets in motion a train of events that is as gothically funny as it is horrific.

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## **SPACE AND THE IRISH CULTURAL IMAGINATION**

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Springer This book reconstitutes the category of 'space' as a crucial element within contemporary cultural, literary and historical studies in Ireland. The study is based on the dual premise of an explosion of interest in the category of space in modern cultural criticism and social inquiry, and the consolidation of Irish studies as a significant scholarly field across a number of institutional and intellectual contexts. Besides a methodological/theoretical introduction and extended case studies, the book includes an auto-critical dimension which extends its interest into the fields of local history and life-writing.

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## **MCDONAGH PLAYS: 1**

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### **THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE; A SKULL IN CONNEMARA; THE LONESOME WEST**

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A&C Black Martin McDonagh's plays have been produced in Galway, Dublin, London and New York. They have created excitement and have won numerous awards. In individual editions the plays have been among Methuen's most popular sellers. 'Martin McDonagh's *The Leenane Trilogy*, one of the great events of the contemporary Irish theatre' (*Irish Times*). This volume contains: *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* - 'McDonagh's writing is pitiless but compassionate: he casts a cold, hard, but understanding eye on relationships made of mistrust, hesitation, resentment and malevolence' (*Sunday Times*); *A Skull in Connemara* - 'Here, McDonagh's gift is at its most naked and infectious . . . it leaves you giddy with gruesome exhilaration' (*Financial Times*); *The Lonesome West*: 'The play combines manic energy and physical violence in a way that is both hilarious and viscerally exciting' (*Daily Telegraph*) "A star is born, bright and blazing, confident, individual and shockingly accomplished" (*Sunday Times*)

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## **EMERGENCE OF IRISH GOTHIC FICTION**

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### **HISTORY, ORIGINS, THEORIES**

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Edinburgh University Press Provides a new account of the emergence of Irish gothic

*fiction in mid-eighteenth century This book provides a robustly theorised and thoroughly historicised account of the 'beginnings' of Irish gothic fiction, maps the theoretical terrain covered by other critics, and puts forward a new history of the emergence of the genre in Ireland. The main argument the book makes is that the Irish gothic should be read in the context of the split in Irish Anglican public opinion that opened in the 1750s, and seen as a fictional instrument of liberal Anglican opinion in a changing political landscape. By providing a fully historicized account of the beginnings of the genre in Ireland, the book also addresses the theoretical controversies that have bedevilled discussion of the Irish gothic in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s. The book gives ample space to the critical debate, and rigorously defends a reading of the Irish gothic as an Anglican, Patriot tradition. This reading demonstrates the connections between little-known Irish gothic fictions of the mid-eighteenth century (*The Adventures of Miss Sophia Berkley and Longsword*), and the Irish gothic tradition more generally, and also the gothic as a genre of global significance.*

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## **A HISTORY OF MODERN DRAMA**

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John Wiley & Sons *Covering the period 1879 to 1959, and taking in everything from Ibsen to Beckett, this book is volume one of a two-part comprehensive examination of the plays, dramatists, and movements that comprise modern world drama. Contains detailed analysis of plays and playwrights, connecting themes and offering original interpretations Includes coverage of non-English works and traditions to create a global view of modern drama Considers the influence of modernism in art, music, literature, architecture, society, and politics on the formation of modern dramatic literature Takes an interpretative and analytical approach to modern dramatic texts rather than focusing on production history Includes coverage of the ways in which staging practices, design concepts, and acting styles informed the construction of the dramas*

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## **MONSTER THEORY [ELECTRONIC RESOURCE]**

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### **READING CULTURE**

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U of Minnesota Press *The contributors to Monster Theory consider beasts, demons, freaks and fiends as symbolic expressions of cultural unease that pervade a society and shape its collective behavior. Through a historical sampling of monsters, these essays argue that our fascination for the monstrous testifies to our continued desire to explore difference and prohibition.*

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### **THY NEIGHBOUR'S WIFE**

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### **WHY WE HAVE A BODY**

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Dramatic Publishing

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### **THE LIEUTENANT**

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Canongate Books *In 1788 Daniel Rooke sets out on a journey that will change the*

course of his life. As a lieutenant in the First Fleet, he lands on the wild and unknown shores of New South Wales. There he sets up an observatory to chart the stars. But this country will prove far more revelatory than the stars above. Based on real events, *The Lieutenant* tells the unforgettable story of Rooke's connection with an Aboriginal child - a remarkable friendship that resonates across the oceans and the centuries.

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## LOOT

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A&C Black A black farce masterpiece, *Loot* follows the fortunes of two young thieves, Hal and Dennis. Dennis is a hearse driver for an undertaker. They have robbed the bank next door to the funeral parlour and have returned to Hal's home to hide-out with the loot. Hal's mother has just died and the pair put the money in her coffin, hiding the body elsewhere in the house. With the arrival of Inspector Truscott, the thickened plot turns topsy-turvy. Playing with all the conventions of popular farce, Orton creates a world gone mad and examines in detail English attitudes at mid-century. The play has been called a Freudian nightmare, which sports with superstitions about death - and life. It is regularly produced in professional and amateur productions. First produced in London in 1966, *Loot* was hailed as "the most genuinely quick-witted, pungent and sprightly entertainment by a new, young British playwright for a decade" (*Sunday Telegraph*). The Student Edition offers a plot summary, full commentary, character notes and questions for study, besides a chronology and bibliography.

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## A BEHANDING IN SPOKANE

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Dramatists Play Service Inc *THE STORY*: In Martin McDonagh's first American-set play, Carmichael has been searching for his missing left hand for almost half a century. Enter two bickering lovebirds with a hand to sell, and a hotel clerk with an aversion to gunfire, and we're

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## JUNK

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Dramatists Play Service, Inc. It's 1985. Robert Merkin, the resident genius of the upstart investment firm Sacker-Lowell, has just landed on the cover of *Time* magazine. Hailed as "America's Alchemist," his proclamation that "debt is an asset" has propelled him to dizzying heights. Zealously promoting his belief in the near-sacred infallibility of markets, he is trying to reshape the world. What Merkin sets in motion is nothing less than a financial civil war, pitting magnates against workers, lawyers against journalists, and ultimately, pitting everyone against themselves.

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## AMÉLIE

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## FRENCH FILM GUIDE

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Bloomsbury Publishing "*Le Fabuleux destin d'Amelie Poulain*" was the surprise boxoffice success of 2001, with nine million spectators in France, and more than 30 million worldwide. The film turned Audrey Tautou into an international star, in her iconic role as Amelie, a naive French Parisian who devotes herself to mending the

*lives of the people around her. Shot on location in Paris, the film combines poetic and magical realism with stylish cinematography, original use of colour, state-of-the-art special effects, and an evocative soundtrack; together these have produced a popular film of universal appeal. Isabelle Vanderschelden examines the film's production within the French film industry. She analyzes the issues of genre and narrative that it presents so well. She looks in depth at the film's key scenes, as well as at Jeunet's distinctive visual style and cinematography and his use of digital technology. The national and international receptions of Amelie are explored to establish why the film has caught the public imagination and whether it marks a renewal in the cultural diversity and distinctive identity of the French film industry. This book will be essential reading for cinema lovers and students alike.*

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## **HISTORY OF THE COUNTY LONGFORD**

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### **SYNGE AND THE IRISH LANGUAGE**

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*Synge was the victim of a cruel paradox: those who loved his works knew no Irish and those who loved Irish despised his works. This book aims to show that Synge's command of Irish was extensive and that this knowledge proved invaluable in the writing of his major plays.*

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### **FIRE IN THE STRAW**

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### **NOTES ON INVENTING A LIFE**

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Simon and Schuster **\*\*Named One of the New York Post's Best New Books to Read \*\***  
*FIRE IN THE STRAW is the witty and deeply felt memoir of Nick Lyons, a man with an intrepid desire to reinvent himself—which he does, over and over. Nick Lyons shape shifts from reluctant student and graduate of the Wharton School, to English Professor, to husband of a fiercely committed painter, to ghost writer, to famous fly fisherman and award-winning author, to father and then grandfather, to Executive Editor at a large book publishing company, and finally to founder and publisher of his own successful independent press.. Written with the same warm and earthy voice that has enthralled tens of thousands of fly-fishing readers, Nick weaves the disparate chapters of his life: from the moment his widowed mother drops him off at a grim boarding school at the age of five, where he spends three lonely and confusing years; to his love of basketball and pride playing for Penn; to the tumultuous period, in the army and after, when he found and was transformed by literature; to his marriage to Mari, his great love and anchor of his life. Suddenly, with a PhD in hand and four children, Nick embarks on a complex and thrilling ride, juggling family, fishing, teaching, writing, and publishing, the wolf always at his door. Against all odds, The Lyons Press survives, his children prosper, his wife's art flourishes, and his books and articles make him a household name. Fire in the Straw is a love story, a confessional, and a beautiful big-hearted memoir.*

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### **THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE AND OTHER PLAYS**

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Vintage *While still in his twenties, the Anglo-Irish playwright Martin McDonagh has filled houses in London and New York, ranked in the most prestigious drama awards.*

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## MY ROMANTIC HISTORY

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Faber & Faber *Do you know how they get animals to breed in captivity? They put them in the same cage. One moment you're colleagues, and then it's Friday night drinks, a quick grope, and you're an item. When Tom and Amy get together, they find themselves living in each other's pockets. But all too soon the ghosts of relationships past begin to interfere with the here and now. A comedy about love, loss and laminating machines, My Romantic History premiered at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh, in August 2010 in a Bush Theatre and Sheffield Theatres production, in association with Birmingham Rep.*

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## THIS GREAT CALAMITY

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### THE IRISH FAMINE 1845-52

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Roberts Rinehart Pub *The Irish famine of 1845-52 was the most decisive event in the history of Ireland. In a country of 8 million people, the Famine caused the death of approximately 1 million, forced a similar number to emigrate, and reduced the Irish population to just over 1 million by the beginning of the 20th century. This book unravels fact from opinion, confronts the role of ethnic stereotypes, and examines the ruling Anglo-Irish government's response to the disaster while analyzing its motives. She reveals the scope of the Famine's impact, showing how local communities were affected and provides a detailed account of the relief measures organized at both local and national levels. -- Publisher description*

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## MARIE AND ROSETTA

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Samuel French, Incorporated *Bringing fierce guitar playing and swing to gospel music, Sister Rosetta Tharpe was a legend in her time and a huge influence on Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jimi Hendrix, and Ray Charles. Marie and Rosetta chronicles her first rehearsal with a young protégée, Marie Knight, as they prepare to embark on a tour that would establish them as one of the great duos in musical history.*

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## ROOTS

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A&C Black *It's 1958. Beatie Bryant has been to London and fallen in love with Ronnie, a young socialist. As she anxiously awaits his arrival to meet her family at their Norfolk farm, her head is swimming with new ideas. Ideas of a bolder, freer world which promise to clash with their rural way of life. Roots is the remarkable centrepiece of Wesker's seminal post-war trilogy. It was first performed in 1959 at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, before transferring to the Royal Court. It is the second play in a trilogy comprising Chicken Soup with Barley and I'm Talking About Jerusalem. It went on to transfer to the Duke of York's Theatre in the West End. A true classic, Roots is an affecting portrait of a young woman finding her voice at a time of unprecedented social change.*

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## FAITH HEALER

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## A DRAMA

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*Samuel French, Inc. In this darkly lyrical tale of a traveling faith healer roaming through Scotland and Wales with his wife and his manager, the author has created a metaphorical portrait of the artist as both creator and destroyer. The Broadway production starred James Mason.--From publisher description.*

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## THE WIFE OF WILLESDEN

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*Penguin UK 'Married five times. Mother. Lover. Aunt. Friend. She plays many roles round here. And never Scared to tell the whole of her truth, whether Or not anyone wants to hear it. Wife Of Willesden: pissed enough to tell her life Story to whoever has ears and eyes . . .' Zadie Smith's first time writing for the stage, The Wife of Willesden is a riotous twenty-first century translation of Geoffrey Chaucer's classic The Wife of Bath's Prologue, brought to glorious life on the Kilburn High Road. Commissioned to celebrate Brent's year as Borough of Culture 2020, The Wife of Willesden will premiere at the Kiln Theatre, London in September 2020.*

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## HISTORY OF IRELAND

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